

**Classification**

Sedative, benzodiazepine

**Prehospital Indications**

Agitated Delirium: patients requiring restraints for patient and provider safety  
Behavioral / Psychiatric Crisis: patients requiring restraints for patient and provider safety  
Cardiac Dysrhythmia: sedation prior to and/or during synchronized cardioversion or transcutaneous pacing  
Seizure - Active

**Other Common Indications**

Sedation and amnestic agent in patients undergoing mechanical ventilation or painful procedures

**Adult Dose**

Agitated Delirium / Behavioral / Psychiatric Crisis  
**5mg (1mL) IM/IN/IV**, repeat x1 in 5 min prn, maximum total dose prior to Base contact 10mg for Agitated Delirium (Psychiatric Crisis requires Base order for any)  
Cardiac Dysrhythmia - sedation prior to synchronized cardioversion / transcutaneous pacing  
**2mg (0.4mL) slow IV/IO push/IM/IN**, may repeat every 5 min, maximum total dose prior to Base contact 6mg  
Seizure - Active  
**5mg (1mL) IM/IN/IV**, repeat x1 in 2 min prn, maximum total dose prior to Base contact 10mg

**Pediatric Dose**

Agitated Delirium / Behavioral / Psychiatric Crisis  
**0.1mg/kg (5mg/mL) IM/IV**, dose per [MCG 1309](#), repeat dosing every 5 min prn per Base order  
Cardiac Dysrhythmia - sedation prior to synchronized cardioversion / transcutaneous pacing  
**0.1mg/kg (5mg/mL) IM/IV/IO**, dose per [MCG 1309](#), repeat x1 in 2 min prn, maximum 2 doses prior to Base contact, maximum single dose 5mg  
Seizure - Active  
**0.1mg/kg (5mg/mL) IM/IV/IO**, dose per [MCG 1309](#), repeat x1 in 2 min prn, maximum 2 doses, maximum single dose 5mg OR  
**0.2mg/kg (5mg/mL) IN**, dose per [MCG 1309](#), repeat x1 in 2 min prn, maximum 2 doses prior to Base contact, maximum single dose 5mg

**Mechanism of Action**

Binds to receptors at several sites within the CNS, potentiates GABA receptor system which produces anxiolytic, anticonvulsant, muscle relaxant, and amnesic effects.

**Pharmacokinetics**

Onset 3-5 min IV, 15-20 min IM, 6-14 min IN  
Duration 1-6 hours IV/IM

**Contraindications**

Acute alcohol intoxication with altered mental status  
Respiratory depression  
Shock / Poor perfusion

**Interactions**

Risk of respiratory or central nervous system depression, increases when used with diphenhydramine, fentanyl, morphine, or other opiate or sedative medications

**Adverse Effects**

Hypotension  
Respiratory depression / arrest

**Prehospital Considerations**

- Closely monitor respiratory and cardiac function after administration
- For patients with agitated delirium and violent behavior, IM/IN administration is recommended over IV for the initial dose for the safety of EMS personnel.
- If available, waveform EtCO<sub>2</sub> monitoring should be instituted after administration.